National Federation of Democratic Women Resolution Supporting Action to Address Gun Violence: Universal Background Checks

WHEREAS, it is an unacceptable and avoidable national tragedy to lose close to 40,000 lives annually to gun violence; and

WHEREAS, because of current loopholes in existing law, one of every five gun sales in America is conducted without a background check where no questions are asked, while a 2018 study showed that 97% of all Americans support expanding background checks to include so-called "private sales" occurring at gun shows and over the internet; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. House of Representatives on February 27 overwhelmingly passed H.R. 8, "The Bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019," requiring that all gun sales be subjected to a background check. Unfortunately, Majority Leader McConnell has thus far refused to allow S. 42, the Senate companion bill, to be brought to the floor of that body.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Federation of Democratic Women hereby supports the passage of legislation requiring expanded background checks as a common-sense approach to help keep guns out of the wrong hands and furthermore urges an immediate debate on this legislation in the U.S. Senate so that the will of a sound majority is respected as it was in the U.S. House.